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LETTER DATED 8 AUGUST 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GEORGIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon the instructions of my Government I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the statement made by the Georgian side of the Quadripartite Commission on Voluntary Return of Refugees and Displaced Persons to Abkhazia, which is also addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (see annex).

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Peter CHKHEIDZE
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative

Annex

[Original: English and Russian]

Statement made on 5 August 1994 by the Georgian side of the Quadripartite Commission on Voluntary Return of Refugees and Displaced Persons to Abkhazia

The Georgian side of the Quadripartite Commission on Voluntary Return of Refugees and Displaced Persons to Abkhazia, established according to the quadripartite agreement signed in Moscow on 4 April 1994 (S/1994/397, annex II), declares:

The Quadripartite Commission cannot at present fulfil its humanitarian function - to assist the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons to Abkhazia. This has been caused in the main by the fact that the Abkhaz side has constantly raised issues lying beyond the competence of the Quadripartite Commission, and more lately by their constant failure to attend the sessions. All this is a deliberate attempt to procrastinate or to foil altogether the entire process of return of the refugees and displaced persons to their homes.

While the Georgian side is sorry to state that the efforts of the Russian side and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees have not yet convinced the Abkhaz side to come back to the negotiating table, it also urgently requests the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General to Georgia, Ambassador Edward Brunner, the representative of the President of the Russian Federation in the conflict zone, Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Boris Pastukhov, and the Chairman of the Quadripartite Commission, Mr. Taslimur Rahman, to do their utmost to persuade the Abkhaz side to continue their activity in the Quadripartite Commission in order to resolve as soon as possible the problems pertaining to the return of refugees and displaced persons to Abkhazia and thus considerably accelerate the entire process of comprehensive political settlement of the conflict.

Member of the Commission from the Georgian side:

(Signed) V. VASHAKIDZE

Alternative member of the Commission from the Georgian side

(Signed) T. SHARMANASHVILI